



Y. L. Rabin
 Department of State

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TELEGRAM

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DRAFTED BY P - MR SISCO:CHG

APPROVED BY P - MR SISCO

S/S/O:LMATTESON

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TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV NIACT IMMEDIATE

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State Dept. review
completed

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CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS

SUBJECT: US INSPECTION OF PASSES

FOR AMBASSADOR TOON FROM SISCO

1. AS YOU KNOW, WE HAVE HAD A NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS ON THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE ISRAELI LINE QUOTE IS OUT OF PASSES UNQUOTE. WE SEE NO SERIOUS PROBLEM WITH RESPECT TO THE MILTA, BUT WE DEFINITELY SEE A PROBLEM WITH RESPECT TO THE GIDDI. ISRAELI LINE AS PLOTTED ON AN AERIAL PHOTO MAP WE REVIEWED WITH DINITZ TODAY PLACES LINE SLIGHTLY EAST OF SUMMIT BUT IN OUR VIEW IN THE EASTERN SLOPE OF THE PASS, AND NOT OUT OF THE PASSES. WE BELIEVE THAT SADAT MUST BE IN A POSITION TO JUSTIFY PLAUSIBLY THAT ISRAELIS ARE OUT OF THE PASSES.

2. DINITZ INFORMED US TODAY THAT RABIN HAS AGREED THAT WE COULD SEND US EXPERTS OR EXPERTS TO MAKE OBJECTIVE JUDGMENT, IT BEING UNDERSTOOD THEY ARE NOT COMMITTED NECESSARILY TO ACCEPT OUR JUDGMENT.

3. WE ARE SENDING

TO MAKE SUCH A

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JUDGMENT, AND WE WANT COL. FORSMAN TO ACCOMPANY HIM. WE HAVE BRIEFED [REDACTED] HERE AND HAVE INDICATED TO HIM WHERE WE BELIEVE IT CAN PLAUSIBLY BE MAINTAINED THAT ISRAEL IS OUT OF GIODI PASS. IT IMPORTANT FORSMAN SUPPORT [REDACTED] FULLY. [REDACTED] FORSMAN ARE TO EXAMINE THE GROUND (INVITATION BY ISRAELIS IS FOR THEM TO LOOK AT BOTH PASSES) AND THEN MAKE RECOM- MENDATION TO US BACK HERE. IT IS NOT INTENDED THAT OUR TEAM WILL SHARE ITS JUDGMENT WITH ISRAELIS BUT RATHER REPORT TO WASHINGTON ITS VIEW IMMEDIATELY AFTER COMPLETION TRIP.

4. [REDACTED] WILL LEAVE SUNDAY NIGHT FOR ISRAEL. DETAILED TRAVEL PLANS WILL FOLLOW SEPTTEL. YOU SHOULD CONTACT RABIN TO SET IN MOTION ARRANGEMENTS FOR [REDACTED] FORSMAN TO VISIT PASSES AREA PROMPTLY.

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